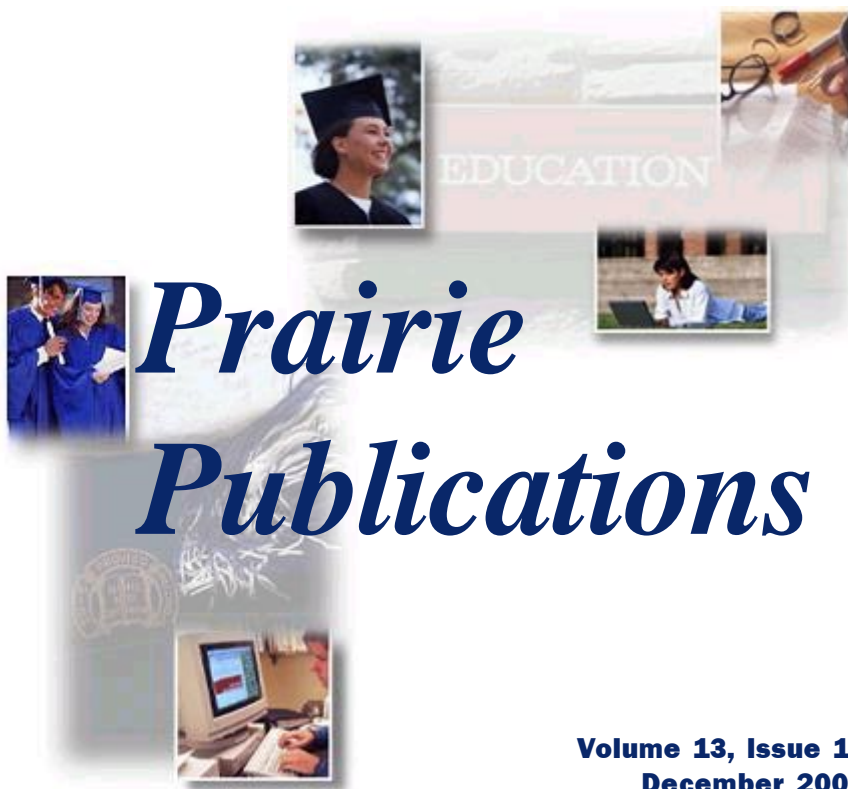


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**Volume 13, Issue 12**  
**December 2001**

## Getting MPNs Just Got Easier!

Financial aid office personnel and students can now view their student's MPNs online for loans guaranteed by SLND at [mystudentloanonline.com](http://mystudentloanonline.com) and it's as easy as 1-2-3! All that you have to do is: 1) query by the student's name or social security number; 2) select the student from the query results; and, 3) the first screen that displays will include an icon to click on to view the MPN.

Today the MPN has to be printed, completed with any missing information, signed, and returned to the lender for processing. Starting in January 2002, students will be able to complete this process electronically and digitally sign their MPN. Watch for more details on digital signatures for MPNs in next month's issue of *Prairie Publications*.

Once SLND has the completed MPN for loans serviced by Bank of North Dakota, or a disbursement manifest from other lenders, we remove the MPN from the screen. If you notice that the MPN is not on this screen, it would indicate that the lender has a valid MPN in their possession.

For any schools needing access to [mystudentloanonline.com](http://mystudentloanonline.com), please contact me at 1-800-472-2166 ext. 5654 or by e-mail at [werhardt@state.nd.us](mailto:werhardt@state.nd.us) to establish this access.

Wally Erhardt, Associate Director  
SLND-Guarantor

## RMASFAA 2002 Planning Update

The members of the North Dakota Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NDASFAA) have been working diligently preparing for the annual conference of the Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA). The 2002 annual conference will be hosted by North Dakota, October 13-16, 2002, at the Radisson Inn in Bismarck.

Various committees met prior to Decentralized Training, November 14, and gave an update on conference plans. It's clear that we have great people on the committees because there are already many ideas for breakout sessions, keynote speakers, entertainment, food, advertising, and registration materials! It promises to be a great conference. If you are a NDASFAA member and not part of a committee, you'll want to get caught up in the enthusiasm and join the team! Just contact Holly Schirado (328-5751) or Jeff Jacobs (224-5441). Make sure to mark your calendar!

*Holly Schirado, Conference Co-Chair*

## NDASFAA Update

Below are a few updates from the 2001 RMASFAA Conference:

Bob Neas, Director of Financial Aid at NDSU, received the Distinguished Service Award from RMASFAA at the regional conference recently held in Wichita, Kansas. Bob was recognized by the association for outstanding achievements and personal contributions to the financial aid profession and the association. Recommendations for the awards are made by peers, with winners selected by the association's president. Bob has served on RMASFAA's board for the past three years. He also has served on the Summer Institute and Professional Development Committees, and has been a regional trainer. Bob has served as president, treasurer, and chair of the Professional Development Committee for NDASFAA as well.

Jeanne Enebo, Assistant Director of Fiscal Operations at NDSU, received an award for her 25 years of service.

The Electronic Initiatives Committee and the Summer Institute Committee were both awarded the RMASFAA "Committee of the Year".

Thanks to all for your effort!

*Ryan Graalum, President - NDASFAA  
Assistant Financial Aid Director - NDSU*

### ***Prairie Publications***

ATTN: Program Development  
Student Loans of North Dakota  
PO Box 5524  
Bismarck, ND 58506-5524

Available online at  
[mystudentloanonline.com](http://mystudentloanonline.com)

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Bank of North Dakota  
overseen by  
Industrial Commission  
of North Dakota

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### ***Prairie Publications***

By Student Loans of North Dakota is a newsletter circulated to lenders, college financial aid and admissions personnel, high school guidance counselors, other guaranty agencies, and individuals needing information about student loans. ***All articles are of the writer's opinion and should not be construed as Student Loans of North Dakota policy unless so stated.***

## Student Loan Borrowers Affected by the September 11 Attacks

SLND has added a link from [mystudentloanonline.com](http://mystudentloanonline.com) to a document from the FFELP community explaining options available to assist student loan borrowers in repaying their student loans. The document addresses issues affecting: 1) borrowers who work and live in New York City; 2) borrowers who reside outside of New York City; 3) borrowers called to active military duty; and, 4) children and spouses of victims. The link can be found on the home page under the Highlights section.

## Focus Group Meeting Covers Digital Signatures and More

The SLND Focus Group meeting of North Dakota college financial aid directors “*Celebrated Heroes of Higher Education*” as they met in Bismarck, November 27. The Focus Group utilized the facilitation and open discussion format this year as participants dispersed into small groups to generate ideas and information. Topics of discussion included loan cancellation and revision, digital signatures, and College SAVE. The meeting ended with a photo session with Governor John Hoeven as he signed the North Dakota College Awareness Week proclamation.

Peggy Anderson, Coordinator - CIS/PD

## FAFSA Video and Financial Aid Night Presentation Update

Due to very few changes to the 2002-2003 FAFSA, College Information Service will not produce a new FAFSA video this year. However, the information in last year's video remains relevant; please continue to use the 2001-2002 FAFSA video to show to students and parents.

College Information Service will update the Financial Aid Night PowerPoint presentation which will include information about the 2002-2003 FAFSA, PIN numbers, the FAFSA process, and aid options available for students. This presentation will be available late December and can be downloaded from our Web site, [mystudentloanonline.com](http://mystudentloanonline.com). Or, you can call College Information Service at 1-800-554-2717 to request transparencies to use for your school's financial aid night.

Tammy Carlson, Coordinator - CIS/PD

*Everyone at  
Student Loans of North Dakota  
wishes you and your family  
a very special and joyous  
holiday season!*



## Debt Management Month at NDSU

This past October the NDSU community participated in the first *Annual Debt Management Month* on campus. The NDSU Financial Aid Office and the NDSU Business Club sponsored the event. The month was filled with events that combined fun with awareness and education of student loan debt and student credit card debt. The following events were held: Credit Card Cut-Up Contest; Debt Management Panel; Defeat Your Debt Sumo Wrestling; The Stampede to Financial Freedom 5K Run; and Money Management presentations to freshmen orientation classes.

The Credit Card Cut-Up Contest was a week-long event that encouraged students to cut up their credit cards. The courageous students who participated received prizes, such as Best Buy gift certificates.

The Debt Management Panel consisted of a bankruptcy attorney, financial planner, credit counselor, student loan provider, and student with past credit card problems. Panel members talked about their experiences in working with students and student debt. Afterwards, the audience was free to ask questions of the panelists. The purpose was to educate students on the consequences and prevention of student loan debt and student credit card debt.

The Defeat Your Debt Sumo Wrestling provided students a fun and safe way to relieve stress while also creating awareness of Debt Management Month.

The Stampede to Financial Freedom 5K Run was held on Homecoming. Runners were given prizes for participating and trophies were given to winners in various age categories.

Thirteen sections of freshmen orientation classes totaling approximately 275 students attended Money Management Presentations specifically geared toward first-year students. The presentations addressed types of financial aid, student loan repayment, credit card information, and how to establish a budget. As an added learning experience, some members of the Business Club provided their own money management experiences to the freshmen orientation classes.

In addition to these events, debt management literature was dispersed throughout the campus, a Debt Management article was written in the campus newspaper, and Debt Management Month events were advertised on the radio and in *The Fargo Forum* newspaper.

*Terisa Ames-Ohnstad - NDSU Financial Aid Graduate Intern*

## SLND "All Star" of the Month

**David Falkenstein** was chosen as SLND's "All Star" of the Month for November.

David was hired as a part-time employee in the New Loans area of SLND-Guarantor in July 1992. Since then, David has transferred to various positions within New Loans, SLND-Loan Servicing, and SLND-Fiscal Services. He was promoted to his current position as Processing Supervisor for SLND-Loan Servicing in 1998.

David is a tremendous team player and goes the extra mile to help when needed by other divisions. He has a great sense of humor, along with being extremely patient and knowledgeable. SLND is very fortunate to have David on board! *Congratulations!*



## HECN - Student Information Systems Report

Earlier this week, I had the opportunity for the first time to view the process of using the new Data Warehouse for statistical analysis and reporting. While I had heard exceptional things about this new system for months, I had not had a chance to see it in "action" for myself. It was "awesome" as some of today's youth might say!

I hope that all of you have had a chance to see this new tool for yourselves and that many of you have had a chance to actually use it for yourselves. If you have not, I know that continued effort to make training available is underway. When you hear about opportunities to learn more about it, by all means take the opportunity to do so.

While the demonstration I enjoyed was exceptional, one of the interesting things that I saw related to the data being manipulated, analyzed, and reported. In some cases the reported information was incomplete. I mentioned my concerns to the people who were doing the demonstration. My instructors quickly explained that the data is simply a picture of the data maintained by each campus and is only as accurate within the warehouse as it is being maintained by each campus.

With that in mind, this article will serve two purposes. First, an encouragement to find out more about the data warehouse and the many benefits available through its use. Secondly, a further encouragement to attempt to maintain data as completely as possible so that reporting can be reflective of our served populations. I know that's a silly thing to say; of course, we all think our data is flawless and would further say that we always maintain data that is 100 percent accurate and complete.

Recently, at an IVN session a question was asked about marital status of our student populations. The NDUS institutions have reported a very large percentage of students as single and someone was asking about the validity of these numbers. While most students are probably single at the time they apply to go to one of our schools, this status often changes while they are in attendance. Unless the student takes the time to report the change to officials on his/her campus, this data element isn't modified to reflect the change. Other data elements are subject to change as students move through the system as well. Some data fields are considered optional; students do not have to comply by providing these pieces of information. And yet, reports are both required and desired on such data elements.

Another example that might skew data is the fact that the data warehouse is unable to receive data on students who do not have a common NAID number. While most of the NDUS students do have such a number, it is possible that some may not. A batch job is available and should be run on a regular basis to identify students who need to have a common NAID number. If this is not done, these students will not be included in the data warehouse database.

The data warehouse doesn't lie. It's just a mirror reflecting the data that we keep. I saw some incomplete data when I sat through my demonstration. It would be nice if there were a way that data collection (of optional information and data that changes as students progress through their educational experience) could be encouraged.

Just something to think about.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 701-777-5031 or use my e-mail address which is [charles\\_fjeld@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:charles_fjeld@mail.und.nodak.edu).

Charles Fjeld  
NDUS, HECN-SIS, Grand Forks, ND

## HECN Highlights

Happy December! Once again it is already time to start preparing for the upcoming processing year. We have compiled the information that you need in order to ensure that you have all the steps completed prior to the ISIR startup. Please let us know if you have any questions. Have a good month.

### **2002-2003 ISIR Start Up**

As most of you know, ISIR start-up for the 2002-2003 year, is in early January 2002. In preparation for this process, several steps need to be completed. We will need everyone to make the following changes before Friday, December 28, 2001. If you are unable to make the required changes by this date please let us know.

**NOTE:** Please contact Tricia or Paula when you have completed all the changes. We will go through each change with you to ensure all changes have been made.

Tricia and Paula will be working with each of the schools to install EDExpress version 8.0 for 2002-2003 when it becomes available in December.

The ISIR parameters used on the ISIR reports must be set up on FE01. The Report ID and Description are listed below. As you can see, we have reused the report ids from the 2000-2001 school year. This means you already have the report id established, HOWEVER, please change the name of the report. In addition, you will want to check the Node, Route Code, Class, Form, and Copies to ensure they are correct. Again, be sure to change the description to reflect the '03 reports. Refer to the list of report ids at the bottom.

<b><u>REPORT ID</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>
USSFE042D	NSLDS 2003 Batch Request Needed
USSFE247A	NSLDS 2003 Hardcopy Valid
USSFE041B	FY03 Control Report
USSFE042A	FY03 Valid ISIR Report
USSFE042B	FY03 Verification Report
USSFE042C	FY03 SAR Comment Report
USSFE045A	FY03 Critical Error Report
USSFE045B	FY03 Major Error Report
USSFE045C	FY03 Warning Report
USSFE045D	FY03 Prior Critical Report
USSFE047A	2003 Hardcopy Rejected
USSFE047B	2003 Hardcopy-Critical
USSFE047C	2003 Hardcopy-Valid

**REMINDER:** Please let Tricia or Paula know, via e-mail, once you have made the required changes. We will not run 2002-2003 ISIRs until everyone has completed the steps and notified SIS.

Also, as you begin to prepare for the 2002-2003 Award Year, listed on the next page are the tasks which must be done for a successful start. Remember, all of these items must be completed prior to beginning to run the award process for 2002-2003. If you have any questions on this process, please call for assistance. We want to ensure we start the new year off good for everyone.

*Continued on Page 7*

*HECN Highlights - Continued from Page 6*

- 1) Begin running the Financial Aid Rollover (JCLFI540). This should be run from January through August of every year. On the parm card you enter the FY you are rolling over from. You will want to roll your FY02 data over to FY03 so it will be there for you. On the parm card, you would enter FY02. An easy way to remember what year to enter is to look at the calendar year you are in. Since it is January 2002 you would enter 02 as the fiscal year. Run this through August and then after that only if your FY02 data changes.
- 2) Ask your Controller/Accounting/Business office to roll over the Chart of Accounts to the new year. You can verify this is done by looking up the new FY on the GL70 tran-id. If the new year comes up, the Chart of Accounts has been rolled over. If it doesn't, there's been no rollover yet.
- 3) Enter the number of terms for your institution on FT02. This step is the most forgotten step. Since you are all semester schools, you would enter '2'.
- 4) On FT05 enter the number of terms you intend to pay Pell grants as '3' and remember to put x's at the months you will pay, usually September, January, and June.
- 5) HECN must roll over the Award Type Table. We will run this the first week of January.
- 6) You and/or your Registrar need to go to the tran-id DC50 and enter the correct term start and end dates for ALL three terms. Go to term 03-1, 03-3, & 03-4 and make sure the begin & end dates of the terms are correct. If they are not, this will mess up your student loan applications and perhaps EFT as well. NOTE: You must set up all three terms even if you don't have one of the terms.
- 7) Run JCLFT510 to roll over the Fund Allocation Table to the new award year. If you have changes you want to make, enter those in FY02 before the rollover so you won't have to enter them twice after the rollover. The rollover program only rolls over active accounts. If you have deactivated an account, it will not roll over. Just as the financial aid rollover, you enter the FY you are rolling from. In this case, that would be FY02. To verify it worked, go on FT20 and enter the new FY03. If it comes up it worked. The Chart of Accounts (see #2) must have already been successfully rolled over in order for this rollover to work.
- 8) Once you receive a message from HECN telling you all four of the Pell Payment Grids have been entered onto the system, please run JCLFI905 to print the Payment Grids and review them for accuracy. We will enter this table as soon as it becomes available. If you find any errors, e-mail that information to Sue at [susan\\_klava@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:susan_klava@mail.und.nodak.edu).
- 9) Please remember that you need to change your Pell fund number each year. It is suggested that you have a three year rotation using three different sets of Pell fund numbers. For example, FY 00-01 could have a Pell fund number of 5000, FY 01-02 might be 6000, and FY 02-03 could be 7000. Then FY 03-04 would start over with the Pell fund number of 5000 again.

**HINT:** In order to change Pell fund numbers each year you need to roll over the old number (from previous year). Go in under the old fund number and change the fund number to the new one for the new year. ONCE YOU HAVE AWARDED FROM THIS FUND, IT CAN NOT BE CHANGED!

As usual, if you have any questions, please give us a call. You can reach Tricia at 701-777-3590 or e-mail [tricia\\_campbell@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:tricia_campbell@mail.und.nodak.edu) or Paula at 701-777-3401 or e-mail [Paula\\_Kurtz@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:Paula_Kurtz@mail.und.nodak.edu).

# Put College in Your Future Plans!

Planning to attend college during the 2002-03 school year? Attend a Financial Aid Information Session conducted by financial aid experts representing North Dakota colleges. These sessions will answer questions about the federal student financial aid application (FAFSA), and programs such as Pell, SEOG, and student loans. Sessions are scheduled for:

<b>December 02, 2001</b>	1:30 p.m.*	Elgin-Carson-Flasher H.S. @ Elgin H.S.	<b>January 14, 2002</b>	6:30 p.m.	Tioga H.S.
				7:00 p.m.	Breckenridge, MN H.S.
<b>December 05</b>	7:00 p.m.	Garrison H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Grand Forks Central H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Velva H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Minot H.S.
<b>December 10</b>	7:30 p.m.	Lisbon H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Shanley H.S.
<b>January 03, 2002</b>	7:00 p.m.	Enderlin H.S.	<b>January 15</b>	7:00 p.m.	Lidgerwood H.S.
<b>January 04</b>	7:00 p.m.	Wishek H.S.	<b>January 16</b>	1:30 p.m.*	Beach H.S.
<b>January 06</b>	5:00 p.m.	Kenmare H.S.		7:00 p.m.*	Bowman-Scranton-Rhame H.S. @ Bowman H.S.
<b>January 07</b>	6:00 p.m.	Midway H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Cavalier H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Century H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Colfax H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Des Lacs-Burlington H.S.		7:00 p.m.	North Shore H.S.
	7:00 p.m.*	Dickinson Area Schools @ Dickinson H.S.	<b>January 17</b>	6:30 p.m.	Mayville-Portland CG H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Watford City H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Ellendale H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	West Fargo H.S.	<b>January 22</b>	7:00 p.m.	Kindred H.S.
<b>January 08</b>	7:00 p.m.	Glen Ullin H.S.	<b>January 23</b>	7:00 p.m.	Langdon H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Williston H.S.		7:00 p.m.	North Sargent-Gwinner H.S.
<b>January 09</b>	1:00 p.m.*	Mott H.S.	<b>January 24</b>	7:00 p.m.	Hankinson H.S.
	5:30 p.m.	Midkota H.S. @ Griggs Co. H.S.	<b>January 28</b>	1:50 p.m.	Divide County H.S.
	6:00 p.m.*	Hettinger H.S.		5:00 p.m.	Neché & Pembina H.S. @ Neché H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Ashley H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Anamoose-Drake H.S. @ Drake H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Drayton H.S.		7:00 p.m.*	Hebron-New Salem (IVN)
	7:00 p.m.	Hillsboro H.S.	<b>January 29</b>	7:00 p.m.	Northern Cass H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Parshall H.S.	<b>January 30</b>	7:00 p.m.	Casselton H.S.
<b>January 10</b>	2:00 p.m.	Dakota Prairie H.S. @ Petersburg H.S.		7:00 p.m.	Max H.S.
	2:00 p.m.	Grenora H.S.	<b>February 05</b>	7:00 p.m.	Wahpeton H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Fargo North H.S.	<b>February 11</b>	7:00 p.m.	Wyndmere H.S.
	7:00 p.m.	Grafton H.S.			
<b>January 13</b>	1:00 p.m.*	Beulah H.S.			
	1:30 p.m.*	Hazen H.S.			
	6:30 p.m.	Bishop Ryan H.S.			

\* Indicates Mountain Time

**Dates and times are subject to change.**

For more information, contact your high school counselor, or College Information Service (CIS) at 1-800-554-2717 ext. 5657 or 5653.

**The Financial Aid Information Sessions are sponsored by the  
North Dakota Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.**